

CHARTERED 1905 HIGHLAND TELEPHONE COOPERATIVE

P. O. BOX 340
MONTEREY, VIRGINIA 24465

EXCHANGES:
MONTEREY September 23, 2005
MILL GAP

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TO: Ms. Marlene H. Dortch Office of the Secretary Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, SW, Room TW-A306 Washington, DC 20554

Ms. Irene Flannery --Universal Service Administrative Company Vice President—High Cost and Low Income Division 2000 L. Street, NW, STE 600 Washington, DC 20037

RE: ANNUAL CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENT FOR UNIVERSAL SERVICE FUNDING

Dear Ms. Dortch and Ms. Flannery:

In compliance with the Federal Communications Commission's Order released May 23, 2001, Highland Telephone Cooperative wishes to submit the enclosed affidavit to be used as certification for eligibility of universal service support. CC Document No. 96-45 is the number assigned to this order.

Feel free to contact me if additional information is needed.

Sincerely,

Ruth Newman

Office Manager

Enclosure

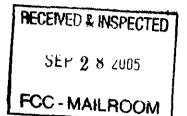
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HIGHLAND TELEPHONE COOPERATIVE

P. O. BOX 340 MONTEREY, VIRGINIA 24465

EXCHANGES. MONTEREY BLUE GRASS MILL GAP



CC DOCKET NO. 96-45

AFFIDAVIT OF L. KIRK BILLINGSLEY IN SUPPORT OF HIGHLAND TELEPHONE COOPERATIVE'S USE OF FEDERAL UNIVERSAL SERVICE SUPPORT

STATE OF VIRGINIA

COUNTY OF HIGHLAND

- I, L. Kirk Billingsley, declare as follows:
- 1. I am president of Highland Telephone Cooperative and am authorized to give this affidavit on its behalf. This affidavit is being given to support the certification of the use of federal universal service funds for 2006 as required by 47 C.F.R. [§ 54.313/§ 54.314].
- 2. Under 47 C.F.R. [§ 54.313/ § 54.314], the Cooperative is required to submit an annual certification to the Federal Communications Commission ("FCC") and the Universal Service Administrative Company ("USAC"), certifying that rural incumbent local exchange carriers and/or eligible telecommunications carriers serving lines in the service area of a rural incumbent local exchange carrier within the Commonwealth of Virginia will use federal high-cost universal service support in a manner consistent with section 254(e) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 (the "Act"), 47 U.S.C. § 254(e). Absent such certification, such carriers will not receive universal service support. In order for carriers to receive federal support beginning January 1 of each year, the Commission's certification must be filed with the FCC and the USAC by October 1 of the preceding year.
- 3. Highland Telephone Cooperative hereby certifies that the federal high-cost universal support Highland Telephone Cooperative will receive in 2006 will be used for the services and functionalities outlined in 47 C.F.R. § 54.101(a), and that it will only use

the federal high-cost support it receives for the provision, maintenance and upgrading of facilities and services for which such support is intended, consistent with section 254(e) of the Act.

FURTHER AFFIANT SAYETH NOT.

L. Kirk Billingsley

Title: President

HIGHLAND TELEPHONE COOPERATIVE

Subscribed and sworn to before me this <u>3</u> day of September, 2005.

My commission expires $\frac{10|31|2006}{}$.

Notary Public